



## **PRESS RELEASE**

Pursuant to Cal Govt Code Sect 6254(f)  
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## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **STATE RECOGNIZES SAN JOSE POLICE DEPARTMENT FOR OUTSTANDING WORK IN DUI ENFORCEMENT AND EDUCATION**

The San Jose Police Department was awarded the 2005 Achievement Award from the California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) for outstanding work associated with DUI Enforcement. In 2004, total fatal and injury collisions were reduced by 21 percent while alcohol-involved fatal and injury collisions saw a 37 percent decline in the City of San Jose, due in large measure to a two-year OTS grant.

"This is outstanding news," said San Jose Police Chief Robert L. Davis. "The campaign was a huge success, and it substantially lowered alcohol-involved fatal and injury collisions in the City of San Jose. I'm very pleased."

Total fatal and injury collisions dropped from 4,061 in 2003 to 3,202 last year, while alcohol-involved fatal and injury collisions saw a decrease from 264 in 2003 to 167 in 2004. In addition, hit-and-run fatal and injury collisions dropped 27 percent, from 536 to 393.

The \$161,000 grant – awarded to the Department from OTS in 2004 – included education and outreach strategies, offer training, seat belt challenges at local high schools, various equipment upgrades, and stepped-up DUI enforcement.

"The San Jose Police Department is successfully working toward a common goal: reduced crashes, fatalities, and injuries on city streets and roadways," said Christopher J. Murphy, Acting Director of the California Office of Traffic Safety. "They're doing a great job."

Captain Tuck Younis accepted the award for the department at the OTS Summit on May 5, 2005. Project Director Lt. Wayne Farquhar also attended and was instrumental in directing the grants operations. "Through this grant we've established great partnerships with MADD, Traffic Safe Communities Network, other law enforcement agencies, and businesses and community-based organizations," said Lt. Farquhar. "Through these partnerships we've seen great successes and will continue to support the partnerships and continue to save lives and preventing injuries."

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BY: Officer Enrique Garcia  
DATE: 07-1-05 TIME: 8:30AM

AUTHORIZED BY: Lt. Wayne Farquhar  
DATE: 07-1-05 TIME: 8:30AM

PRESS OFFICER BRIEFED BY UNIT COMMANDER (CIRCLE) YES NO

## FACT SHEET

### Seat Belt Campaign

The Department coordinated high school seat belt challenges at several high schools in San Jose observing over 6300 students wearing their seatbelts. They also conducted over 25 DUI high school presentations impacting over 12,500 students. The Department also deployed changeable message signs displaying pro-seatbelt and anti-drinking and driving messages. It was viewed by thousands of students, parents, faculty and residents.

### DUI Campaign

A stakeholder and partner in the departments' efforts was also glad to see the drastic reduction in DUI related collisions. Barbara Jacobson, the Bay Area Chapter Vice President and Victim Advocate of Mothers Against Drunk Driving recognized the department stating, "I would like to acknowledge the San Jose Police Department and the Office of Traffic Safety for their efforts to keep our streets safe through sobriety checkpoints and on-going DUI arrests. MADD sees first hand the devastation to our community when we respond to court with the victims of violent crime. Their lives are changed forever, physically, emotionally, financially and spiritually. Without the help of O.T.S. and local law enforcement, MADD's mission of stopping drunk driving, supporting victims of violent crime and preventing underage drinking would be impossible to meet."

The department will continue it's aggressive efforts in both educating the public on the dangers of drinking and driving and enforcing DUI violations. The department has overtime saturation patrols scheduled for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekend. There will be 8 overtime patrol cars on Friday, Saturday and Sunday whose sole mission is DUI enforcement. Due to the huge successes, the department has been awarded a second sobriety and seatbelt enforcement grant scheduled for over next 2 years. Chief Davis reiterated and concluded, "I would like to wish the residents of San Jose a happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July and emphasize if you plan to drink in San Jose, plan your rides ahead of time or plan on being arrested for drunk driving".

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